



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

Fact Sheet

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H-1B Petitions Filed and Approved by Type of Petition: FYs 2000-03

	Fiscal Year	Total	Initial Employment	Continuing Employment
Petitions Filed	2000	299,046	164,814	134,232
	2001	342,035	201,543	140,492
	2002	215,190	109,576	105,614
	2003	231,030	108,526	122,504
Petitions Approved	2000	257,640	136,787	120,853
	2001	331,206	201,079	130,127
	2002	197,537	103,584	93,953
	2003	217,340	105,314	112,026

- During FY 2003, the congressionally mandated cap of 195,000 beneficiaries was not reached. Nearly 78,000 individuals counted against the cap. The corresponding number for FY 2002 was 79,000.
- Almost one-third of H-1B beneficiaries approved during FY 2002 were born in India. Other countries in the top five included, the People's Republic of China (9-percent), Canada (6-percent), the Philippines (5-percent) and the United Kingdom (3-percent).
- One third of the approved applications during FY 2002 were for aliens working as system analysts or programmers, down from half in 2001. The second largest category was occupations in higher education with 7-percent.
- Median compensation for FY 2002 H-1B beneficiaries was \$65,000 for continuing employment and \$45,000 for initial. During FY 2001 those averages were \$65,000 and \$50,000 respectively.
- Nearly 98-percent of all H-1B beneficiaries possess a bachelor's degree or higher. Forty seven-percent hold at least a master's degree.
- Sixty-five percent of H-1B beneficiaries were between 25 and 34 years of age.

– USCIS –

On March 1, 2003, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services became one of three legacy INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. USCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.